

MINUTES
STATE BOARD FOR COMMUNITY AND JUNIOR COLLEGES
December 19, 2003

The regular meeting of the State Board for Community and Junior Colleges was held on Friday, December 19, 2003, at 9:00 a.m., in Room 507 of the Education and Research Center in Jackson, Mississippi.

Members present: Mr. Noal Akins, Major General Denver Brackeen, Mr. Napoleon Moore, Dr. Dorothy Nelson, Ms. Patricia Randall, Mr. George Walker, Mr. Lawrence Warren, Mrs. Brenda Yonge and Ms. Veldore Young.

Members not present: Mr. Jimmy Murphy.

Staff in attendance: Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Dr. Randall Bradberry, Dr. Larry Day, Mrs. Deborah Gilbert, Mrs. Eloise Richardson, Mr. Jim Southward and Mrs. Denise Walley.

Guests in attendance: Dr. Bill Smith – IHL; Dr. Tommy Davis – East Mississippi Community College; Mr. Jim Lott – Mississippi Development Authority; and Ms. Riva Brown – *The Clarion-Ledger*.

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. George Walker called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

PRELIMINARIES

Dr. Dorothy Nelson gave the invocation.

Approval of the Minutes of the November 20-21, 2003, Meetings

Upon a motion by Ms. Veldore Young and a second by General Denver Brackeen, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes of the November 20-21, 2003, meetings.

Review and Approval of Agenda

Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by General Denver Brackeen, the Board voted unanimously to approve the agenda as presented.

REPORTS

Executive Director's Report

Dr. Stonecypher began by stating that Mr. John Adcock, who retired from East Central Community College, will work on contract for six (6) months with the SBCJC office beginning January 5, 2004, to help with the transfer of the day-to-day activities of post-secondary vocational-technical education from MDE to SBCJC. A copy of the "to do list" that outlines steps that will need to be taken for a smooth transition are shown as "Exhibit A".

Dr. Stonecypher stated that as reported in the Committee meeting, applications have been received and interviews have been conducted to fill the Accounting/Personnel Manager position that will be available at the end of the month, due to Mrs. Helen Nelm's retirement. A decision on her replacement is expected to be made today or in the very near future.

SBCJC Minutes: December 19, 2003

Dr. Stonecypher related that Dr. Charles Chance, President of Northeast Mississippi Community College, has announced his plans to retire June 30, 2004. Dr. Johnny Allen, a long time Dean/Director at Northeast has been appointed as his successor.

Dr. Stonecypher also informed the Board that Dr. Webb was not present due to the loss of her sister, and asked the Board to keep her and her family in their prayers. In addition, he related that Dr. Horace Holmes, President of Southwest Mississippi Community College, has been experiencing some health problems and has been in the hospital.

Dr. Larry Day shared a list of retirees that will be receiving a Certificate of Service from the SBCJC, shown as "Exhibit B".

Dr. Day then provided a copy of the *Enrollment at a Glance Fall 2003* report that was compiled after the audits were completed. This is shown as "Exhibit C". Dr. Day was happy to report that all but one (1) school showed an increase in enrollment. A school-by-school report will be brought to the Board in January.

Dr. Stonecypher stated that Governor-elect Haley Barbour has stated his interest in finding the best way to utilize the funds set aside for Workforce training. Barbour recently held a summit on Workforce and job creation that Dr. Stonecypher and Mr. Walker attended.

Dr. Stonecypher then mentioned that the joint meeting of the boards for the Department of Education, IHL and SBCJC is scheduled for February 19, 2004. However, the invitation list has expanded to include the presidents of the colleges and universities, the MEC Board of Directors, the Superintendents Association, Facility Association and others. Dr. Stonecypher has asked that some time be set aside for just the three (3) education board members to meet during this event.

Dr. Stonecypher shared a copy of a *SREB Fact Book* that contained data on part-time enrollment. The spreadsheet showed an increase in enrollment at the two-year colleges, while showing a slight decrease at the universities between 1994 – 2000 (see Exhibit D).

Presentation of Resolution to Executive Director Wayne Stonecypher

Mr. Walker presented a *Resolution of Recognition* that was prepared by SBCJC staff in honor of Dr. Stonecypher for his being selected and recognized by the Mississippi State University Alumni Association's program for his accomplishment as a highly successful graduate (shown as "Exhibit E").

Upon a motion by Dr. Dorothy Nelson and a second by Mr. Noal Akin, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed resolution in honor of Dr. Stonecypher.

MACJC Report

Dr. Tommy Davis began by informing the Board of a special called MACJC meeting on December 4, 2003, to discuss Governor-elect Haley Barbour's request for the community colleges' input on the needs of Workforce Training. Barbour had requested suggestions by December 15, 2003.

Dr. Davis reported that there has been some concern expressed by the superintendents regarding the ACT requirements of the majority of students that are entering the community

SBCJC Minutes: December 19, 2003

college system, due to the fact that they feel this is causing Mississippi ACT scores to appear low. The superintendents have requested that the colleges use some other type of test for placement purposes. A meeting will be set up in the near future with Dr. Henry Johnson and others to discuss possible solutions.

Workforce Investment Act (WIA)

Mr. Walker provided a handout which breaks down the FY 2004 Workforce-related Training Funding Sources, shown as "Exhibit F". Mr. Walker then introduced Mr. Jim Lott, who has been with the Mississippi Development Authority for the last three (3) years, and asked that he give the Board an outline on the Federal Workforce Investment Act (WIA) and its requirements. Mr. Lott explained that only a portion of WIA funds is used for job training. The federal government gives each state a proportioned share based on a three-part federal formula based on poverty and unemployment rates. It then directs the governor to take 85% and use on local workforce areas. The three (3) funding streams from WIA, which are disbursed approximately on an equal basis, are to disadvantaged youth, dislocated workers and training for adults. Federal regulations also mandate that the delivery system to serve adult dislocated workers (2/3 of the funds) must go through a series of the One-Stop Centers, which has 16 required partners.

As mentioned earlier in the meeting, Governor-elect Barbour and his transition team will be looking into ways to get more out of the Workforce dollars that are allocated for training.

*The meeting recessed at 10:23 a.m. and reconvened at 10:36 a.m.

Workforce Report

Mr. Walker reported that the Workforce Council met on December 10, 2003. It was decided that the December and January meetings would be focused on the budget. Mr. Walker expressed his concerns regarding the budget cuts and the effect it will have on Workforce and the Community and Junior College system.

EdNet Report

Dr. Larry Day gave the EdNet Report in the absence of Mr. Jimmy Murphy and Dr. Evelyn Webb. He stated that Mr. Murphy was unable to attend the last EdNet meeting, which was held on December 15, 2003. Dr. Day stated that WorldCom bankruptcy proceedings are continuing. EdNet's claim of \$24,000,000 relating to equipment, financial compensation and damages remains as it was filed last January 2003. Several weeks ago WorldCom was ready to transfer ownership of equipment to EdNet that they purchased as part of the EdNet system build out. They requested that EdNet release them from all bankruptcy claims in order to receive the equipment. This request is being considered.

The Mississippi Department of Health (MDH) "Health Alert Network" project is moving ahead. A draft contract for the engineering phase of the project has been provided for EdNet's review. EdNet will perform an assessment of each of the proposed sites located at some 200 hospitals and health departments.

In closing, Dr. Day reported that the Development Director of EdNet has an appointment with Mr. John Gilbert, Secretary of the Senate, to discuss EdNet assisting the Senate by recording on video future projects that the Senate may want to preserve.

SBCJC Minutes: December 19, 2003

Athletic Report

Mr. Jim Southward reported that the community colleges have had a great year in athletics. Hinds' Women and Pearl River's Men have been named Soccer Champions for this season.

For Football – Northwest MS was the Champion for the North and Hinds was the South Champion. Pearl River and Mississippi Delta were the other teams that went into the playoffs, with Pearl River being crowned the overall Champion on November 15, 2003. Mr. Southward related that we started with three (3) Mississippi Football teams ranking in the top 20, those being Northwest, Pearl River and Jones. At the end of the season, Pearl River and Hinds were placed in the top fifteen.

Basketball is now underway. The north and south division games will begin immediately after the holiday break.

An article was provided that outlines the 40% rule (see "Exhibit G").

Program Report

Dr. Bradberry reported that Coahoma Community College has requested to add three (3) options under the Business Office System Technology program: Accounting Technology, Medical Records Technology and Micro Computer Technology.

Upon a motion by Mr. Lawrence Warren and a second by Mr. Noal Akins, the Board voted unanimously to approve Coahoma's request to add Accounting Technology, Medical Records Technology and Micro Computer Technology as options under their Business Office System Technology program.

Dr. Bradberry referred to a memo that was sent to the Board recently requesting recommendations for the Nissan Scholarship Selection Committee. Dr. Bradberry recommended Mr. Wayne Eason from East Central Community College and Mr. Louis Dugas from Copiah-Lincoln Community College. There being no other recommendations, **upon a motion by General Denver Brackeen and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Wayne Eason and Mr. Louis Dugas as members for the Nissan Scholarship Selection Committee.**

Legislative Report

Dr. Bradberry stated that there was nothing to report at this time.

Location of Classes for Spring Semester 2004

Dr. Larry Day provided a list of location of classes for Spring Semester 2004 (Exhibit H) for the 15 colleges that consists of 24 campuses, 6 comprehensive centers, 3 extension centers and 85 off-campus locations for a total of 118 locations. **Upon a motion by Dr. Dorothy Nelson and a second by Mr. Noal Akins, the Board voted unanimously to approve the proposed list of location of classes for Spring semester 2004.**

SBCJC Minutes: December 19, 2003

ABE/GED

Mrs. Eloise Richardson reported that ABE has had the first "Train-the-Trainer" meeting, where they trained 21 of their full-time teachers to begin working with the new instructors. The trainers will go out into the field and be mentors to the new instructors by helping them setup their classrooms. The Georgia Governor's Office of Literacy and the Tennessee Department of Education will be coming over to look at replicating our Career Aptitude Program (CAP).

Finance Report

Mrs. Deborah Gilbert presented the items on the Finance Agenda for information and action.

Upon a motion by Ms. Veldore Young and a second by Mrs. Brenda Yonge, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the General Fund 2298 Disbursements for January 2004 in the total amount of \$17,720,233, as shown in "Exhibit I".

Upon a motion by Ms. Patricia Randall and a second by Ms. Veldore Young, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the Education Enhancement Fund Disbursement for November 2003 from Fund 4080 (\$2,061,205.44) and Fund 4110 (\$46,744.38) in the total amount of \$2,107,949.82, as shown in "Exhibit J".

Upon a motion by Mrs. Brenda Yonge and a second by Mr. Noal Akins, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the Budget Contingency Fund Disbursement for January 2004 from Fund 3296 in the amount of \$1,274,151, as shown in "Exhibit K".

The following items were presented in report form, with no action required:

Joint Legislative Budget Committee Recommendations for FY 2005, as shown in "Exhibit L". Mrs. Gilbert gave a brief explanation of the charts, which shows a reduction of \$720,481 (11.7%) in General Funds. Also, the Budget Contingency Fund (a one-time funding source) in the amount of \$8,210,168 has been eliminated. This will mean the overall cut for the Board will be 61%.

Financial Statements for Funds 2291 and Special Funds as of November 30, 2003, as shown in "Exhibit M".

Visit to Jones County Junior College

Dr. Randall Bradberry provided a copy of the itinerary for the January 16, 2004 Board meeting, which will be held at Jones County Junior Colleges (Exhibit N). Tours of the Howard Computer Plant in Sandersville, the Howard Technology Park, and Southpoint Advanced Technology Center have been planned in addition to the tour of Jones' campus.

Travel Authorizations

Mr. Walker asked if there were requests for travel reimbursement for events other than regularly scheduled Board meetings. Upon a motion by Ms. Veldore Young and a second by Dr. Dorothy Nelson, the Board **voted unanimously** to approve the following travel authorizations:

Mr. George Walker attended the State Workforce Council Meeting on December 10; he attended the Job Summit held by Governor-elect Barbour on December 16 in Jackson;

SBCJC Minutes: December 19, 2003

and plans to attend the upcoming Workforce Council meeting on January 14 in Jackson.

OTHER BUSINESS

This being the last SBCJC meeting that Mr. Akins will be attending, due to the fact that he won the recent election to serve as a member of the House of Representatives for his district, Mr. Akins took an opportunity to say "thank you" to the Board for their dedication to education in Mississippi. As a junior college product, Mr. Akins stated that he appreciated the opportunity to be on the Board and learned a lot in the short time he served. He encouraged the Board Members to promote education and the community colleges.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:17 a.m.

	
Mr. George Walker, Chairman	Dr. Wayne Stonecypher, Executive Director